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WHOLE No. 2421.

## THE GRAND ARMY'S ENCAMPMENT HELD

### Gen. Torrance, Veteran Commanding Officer, Makes an Interesting and Important Address.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—The encampment of the G. A. R. which is the business meeting of that order, began its session at 10 o'clock today in the First Congregational Church in this city. The attendance comprised about 1000 delegates, making it one of the largest conventions ever held by the organization. Commander-in-Chief Torrance presided and an opening prayer was delivered by J. V. Starkey of Pittsburgh, who acted as chaplain in chief. The report of the committee on credentials was accepted and without the formality of a roll call the business of the meeting proceeded. The meetings were secret.

At the outset a resolution was adopted expressing the grief of the convention over the death of President McKinley and its regret over President Roosevelt's indisposition.

A collection of photos of most of the past national officers of the order were presented to the convention by Delegate Beath of Pennsylvania, with the condition that they are to be preserved in the Congressional library.

#### GENERAL TORRANCE'S ADDRESS.

Commander-in-Chief Torrance then delivered his annual address. He was received with cheers and was frequently interrupted by applause.

General Torrance began his address with a touching allusion to the assassination of President McKinley, eulogizing in strong terms the dead President's character and condemning in bitter language the crime that struck him down. He advocated the enactment of laws by Congress which should make certain the punishment of any person who should make an assault on the Chief Executive. No quibble concerning constitutional rights, he contended, should be allowed to stand in the way of such legislation.

"Within the memory of every member of this encampment, the most notable steps in our country's progress have been taken in the face of imaginary constitutional difficulties. American institutions are of priceless value and have cost too much in sacrifice and suffering to be put in jeopardy for a single hour, and the gallows and the dungeon could be the just reward of every anarchist who sets foot upon our shores, or attempts to put in practice his doctrines of universal hate and chaos."

Continuing, he said that lawlessness of speech usually precedes lawlessness of act, and added: "We have never had a President who deserved to be caricatured, and we never will have one that a self-respecting press or people can afford to hold up to public ridicule. More respect for rightful speech, with less appetite for sensationalism, will do much to wither the evil passions of man, and to promote the safety and security of both life and property in this republic."

Taking up the question of pensions, General Torrance related the circumstances connected with the investigation of the charges against former Pension Commissioner Evans. Speaking of the report made by the Grand Army's committee on pensions, General Torrance said that the acceptance of the resignation of Commissioner Evans by the President immediately followed the presentation of this committee's report to him. Referring further to the effect produced by this inquiry he said: "One most gratifying result of our investigation was to find that no ground existed for the wholesale charges of fraud so often made against the pensioners. A large part of the last report of Commissioner Evans was taken up with a recital of cases of fraud committed or attempted to be committed against the government during the preceding thirty years, but when analyzed it appeared that very few who had seen any military service were parties to such frauds. The violators of the law were simply impostors, not soldiers. The said report further showed that the number of Union soldiers convicted of crime during the year was but one-thousandth part of one per cent of the total on the pension roll. We challenge any other department of the government to make as favorable a showing."

The commander-in-chief also took cognizance of the charge that the pension roll contains the names of more Union soldiers than there are survivors of the civil war and pointed out that there are more than 200,000 survivors of that war whose names do not appear on the roll at all. He advocated legislation in their behalf, saying: "Few of these old veterans have a burial record and to a large extent they comprise the men that marched with Sherman to the sea, and fought with Grant at Appomattox. They took part in the grand review in 1865 and formed a part of those splendid armies of untried and well-armed veterans

that thrived on the very hardships of war. They were the last to leave the field and among the last to apply for relief at the hands of the government. For more than a third of a century they have borne an honorable part in advancing the interests of the country, and at this late day, when in their old age they apply for help, they should not be regarded with disfavour because they did not apply earlier."

General Torrance declared that no pecuniary compensation ever could be made to those who preserved the Union, for that was a debt of gratitude which could not be paid with dollars and cents.

"The patriotic impulse that moved us to lay all on the altar of our country," he said, "no fellowship with mercenary motives. We did not belittle the grandeur of the cause in which we engaged by calculating on personal gain. The inadequacy of our pay but added to the dignity of the penalties we suffered. Under the pitiless skies thousands of our comrades suffered as prisoners of war, but no complaint escaped their lips. Release on terms of renunciation of their fealty to the flag was rejected with their expiring breath. On the field of battle fruitless assaults were often made, in the face of certain death, but no one faltered in response to the unwise command. Those were days of unquestioned heroism, supreme devotion, and unparalleled sacrifice. And in these latter days the rear guard of that immortal army should exhibit a spirit no less heroic than that manifested by those who fell in the foreground of the conflict so many years ago."

General Torrance paid high tribute to the work of the Women's Auxiliary organizations, including the Relief Corps and the "Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic," and also made an appeal for the proper recognition of the Sons of Veterans, saying on the latter point: "Patriotism, which we fought has not only arrived, but will soon become the exclusive custodian of our country's destiny, and who more worthily than our sons can take up and carry forward the unfinished work of the Grand Army of the Republic."

He devoted considerable space to consideration of the status of the ex-Confederate soldier, repeating in spirit his plea of a month ago for the manifestation of good will and brotherly kindness toward the late adversaries of the members of the Grand Army. He said he had been prompted in making that appeal by the belief that such actions would tend to bring still closer together all parts of the country in the bonds of common citizenship, and there were already, he added, evidences in the responses received from the Southern States that he had not miscalculated. Indeed, he said, with but two exceptions, the entire press of the country had commended the spirit of the letter.

Continuing on this point he said: "It is not expected that the Grand Army of the Republic as an organization will embark in the building of homes for soldiers north or south, but in no possible way can the greatest fraternal organization in the world more becomingly crown its labors of love in behalf of its own membership than by extending the hand of helpfulness to their fellow-countrymen, against whom they were once arrayed in deadly strife. The most disastrous results of a civil war are the animosities and bitter feelings engendered thereby and I am convinced that one of the most patriotic services we can render our country is to earnestly aid in removing every barrier that separates us or estranges the people. The victory at Appomattox will yield imperfect fruit if we do not win the hearts as well as the flags of the men who wore the gray. A union of hearts as well as of hands is indispensable to an indissoluble union of indivisible States."

"The Grand Army of the Republic has nothing to fear. It is not trammelled by political creeds, nor embarrassed by sectarian controversies, and in the discharge of its duty neither my heart nor my judgment will consent to return to you the great commission committed to my trust one year ago without voicing the noble sentiments which I know animate all your hearts, and I rest confident in the belief that no influences or conditions north or south can successfully construct or maintain a sectional line that will prevent the manifestation of the most kindly feeling and cordial will by act as well as by speech, between the surviving veterans of those who wore the blue and those who wore the gray."

Commander-in-Chief Torrance's report was referred to the standing committee having in charge the reports of officers, after which the other reports of general officers were presented.

#### DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Official reports were made by the senior vice-commander, the junior vice-commander, the senior major-general, the chaplain-in-chief, the adjutant-general, the quartermaster-general, the inspector-general

## INVESTIGATION OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

### Secretary Cooper, Who Has the Matter in Charge, Says That Some Phases Have a Serious Aspect.

FURTHER investigations are being made into matters connected with the Department of Public Works, which, according to the authorities, are assuming a serious aspect.

Among the many rumors brought to the attention of Acting Superintendent Secretary Henry E. Cooper, was one that a sum of money had been paid into the department by the house of Davies & Company, for the immediate repairing of the roads in the Hamakua district, and for which no accounting appears on the books of the department. Mr. Cooper said:

"I am engaged in the investigation of this matter, and have all the papers in the case before me now. I have come to no conclusion, and until I do so no legal action tending to place the responsibility will follow. I will say, however, that I am thoroughly investigating everything in the Public Works Department, and that some phases seem now to promise serious developments."

"I have gone through the office of the assistant superintendent to learn just where we stand as to various appropriations, and I have found everything in the most perfect condition there, and have secured all the information, absolutely, that I have desired."

## WOMAN HOME RULE LEADER PLEADS REPUBLICAN CAUSE

### Mrs. Fannie Sebo Declares Prince Kuhio Will Carry Island of Kauai by Big Majority.

"Before I go I appeal to you all to vote for the Republican ticket." With these words Mrs. Fannie Sebo, two years ago chairman of the woman's section of the Kalaheo Society, closed a speech at the Kalaheo camp last evening which roused the three hundred men and women in attendance to a pitch of enthusiasm not before reached, although she followed able and eloquent pleaders for the cause of progress.

It was a fitting close, for the people had heard her before, knew she had labored hard for the cause of Wilcoxism and that in her change of heart there was much that meant strength for the cause of Prince Kuhio. Mrs. Sebo said that she came of her own free will, without solicitation, to speak for the cause of Republicanism. She told of being in caucuses of the Home Rulers when measures had been decided upon, but the majority members of the last legislature had been unfaithful to the people. They had promised much but had passed only the Lady Dog bill. She said that in her home, Hanalei, there were none but Kuhio men, and that Republicanism would sweep Kauai from Hanalei to Lihue. The people she said were disgusted with Akina, Puiki and the others, and that they would be left at home. In every sentence of her address were words of cheer and she was applauded to the echo.

Kahe, the veteran wharfmaster, as well pleaded with the people to stick close to the Republican ticket. He said he had been called father to the workmen, and he wanted them to help him elect the entire Republican ticket.

These were only two of the notable addresses which marked the Kalaheo Camp meeting. All the candidates spoke of the necessity of electing a legislature which would work for the good of the people, and of sending a man to Washington who would have friends all around him to help in securing benefits for Hawaii. The meeting was largely attended and exceeded in enthusiasm any yet held in the Camp.

The statement shows a balance on hand in the general fund of \$9,251. The report of Adjutant-General Elias H. Towler of Minneapolis shows that on the 30th of June last, the muster roll of the Grand Army contained 263,745 names of members in good standing and that there were 651 posts. The figures as to membership show a net loss since the preceding year of 5804. The adjutant-general says that the high water mark of membership was attained in 1899, when it numbered 409,489, and that there has been a gradual decline since that date. Commenting on this circumstance he says: "It is indeed encouraging that notwithstanding the inevitable increase in the loss by death, the gains by muster in and reinstatement overcome it. There are still living over 900,000 of the men who were a part of that grand army of the sixties, and of that number less than 75,000 are over 42 years of age. This suggests to me to say that if proper energy were put forth the Grand Army of the Republic ought to increase in numbers, instead of decrease."

The death loss for the year as shown by the report is 8299. The percentage based on the number of members in good standing at the beginning of the year is 3.05, as against 3.92 per cent for the preceding year.

The convention then agreed by a vote to proceed at 3 o'clock to the election of officers for the next year and after this question was disposed of they listened to the reading of the report of the special committee on pensions. Sessions were held this morning at Camp Hanalei.

THE NEXT COMMANDER. WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—General Nichols has withdrawn from the contest for commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. and has thrown his support to General Black.

## MITCHELL WON'T CALL OFF STRIKE

### The Miners' Executive Responds to President's Request by Holding His Ground.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—President Mitchell, of the coal miners' union, has refused to comply with the appeal of President Roosevelt to call the strike off. His letter to the President, which was made public at the White House today, is as follows:

Office National President, United Mine Workers of America, John Mitchell, National President, Vice President American Federation of Labor, Hotel Hart, Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 8, 1902.

Hon. Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:—Carroll D. Wright has no doubt reported to you the delivery of your message to me last Monday and my statement to him that I should take your suggestion under advisement, although I did not look upon it with favor.

Since that time I have consulted with our district presidents, who concur fully in my views. We desire to assure you again that we feel keenly the responsibility of our position and the gravity of the situation and it would give us great pleasure to take any action which would bring this coal strike to an end in a manner that would safeguard the interests of our constituents.

In proposing that there be an immediate resumption of coal mining upon the conditions we suggested in the conference at the White House we believed that we had gone more than half way and had met your wishes.

It is unnecessary in this letter to refer to the malicious assault made upon us in the response of the coal operators. We feel confident that you must have been impressed with the fairness of our proposition and the insincerity of those who maligned us.

Having in mind our experience with the coal operators in the past we have no reason to feel any degree of confidence in their willingness to do us justice in the future, and inasmuch as they have refused to accept the decision of a tribunal selected by you and inasmuch as there is no law through which you could enforce the findings of the commission you suggest, we respectfully decline to advise our people to return to work simply upon the hope that the coal operators might be induced or forced to comply with the recommendations of your commission.

As stated above, we believe that we went more than half way in our proposal at Washington, and we do not feel that we should be forced to make further sacrifices. We appreciate your solicitude for the people of our country who are now and will be subjected to great suffering and inconvenience by a prolongation of the coal strike, and we feel that the onus of this terrible state of affairs should be placed upon the side which has refused to refer to fair and impartial investigation.

I am, respectfully,  
JOHN MITCHELL,  
President, U. M. W. A.  
NOTHING AS TO PLANS.

NEW YORK, Oct. 9.—President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, who arrived in the city last night, accompanied by District Presidents T. D. Nichols, Thomas Duffy and John Fahy, refused to answer any questions this morning that would throw any light on his plans or contemplated movements.

"There is nothing I can say as to my purpose here," he said.

He was asked in particular as to what took place or was the outcome of the conference held last night with Senators Quay and Penrose and a man said to be L. H. Hammerling, an independent coal operator from Wilkesbarre, Pa. Some reports say that Senator Platt and Chairman Dunn of the New York Republican State Committee were likewise present.

While Mr. Mitchell was at breakfast, Moses W. Solomon, a lawyer of Chicago, joined him. The two talked for a few moments and then Mr. Mitchell used the long distance telephone for about fifteen minutes. He and Mr. Solomon then went to Mr. Mitchell's room.

Mr. Mitchell was asked if he was going to Washington, in view of the meeting there of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, of which he is a member.

"I probably shall not go today," was the leader's answer, but he would say no more.

Among the many rumors started today by the arrival of Mr. Mitchell in New York was a report that the Erie Railroad had decided not to set forth with the strike, and would hereafter proceed independently. Chairman E. H. Thomas, of the Erie board of directors, said today that there was no truth whatever in this rumor. He also said he had not seen Mr. Mitchell since he arrived in New York and had no appointment to meet him.

#### ANOTHER CONFERENCE.

NEW YORK, October 9.—The presence in this city today of President Mitchell, of the Mine Workers, and of several prominent men who have been more or less identified in recent efforts to settle the coal strike, led to many rumors that such an end had been attained or that negotiations that held a fair promise of settlement were under way.

It has been impossible, however, to verify these reports. Mr. Mitchell himself after a busy morning of secret conferences with unknown parties, positively declined to make any statement and several of the most prominent of the coal operators when questioned replied that so far as they knew nothing had been done. Senators Quay and Penrose of Pennsylvania and Senator Platt of New York, who were in conference during the forenoon, were reticent as to the cause of their council in the latter's office and Senator Quay himself, in an interview, confined his expressions to purely personal matters. From Mr. Mitchell nothing could be obtained beyond the bare statement that he would return to Wilkesbarre tonight. In no responsible quarters has it been possible to obtain even an admission that a new set of negotiations were on foot, though there were various rumors that a settlement of the anthracite coal strike was in sight.

Mr. Nichols, one of the anthracite district presidents, said:

"President Mitchell has the authority to settle the strike only in the event that all the demands of the men are granted. If these demands are not granted the question must be presented to a convention. In view of this it is pretty sure that the miners will not be at work as was rumored today. I do not take much stock in the various peace rumors. While it is possible that the strike may be settled by Monday, it is highly improbable."

President Oliphant of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad, said so far as the operators are concerned the situation is unchanged.

After leaving the conference at Senator Platt's office this afternoon Senator Penrose said there had been no settlement of the strike yet.

Accompanied by an elderly man whose identity has not been disclosed, but who is presumably "Mr. Guernsey," Mr. Mitchell drove to the Equitable building and hurriedly entered a room, the door of which bore a sign "New York Commissioner St. Louis Exposition."

With his companion he remained in the room for more than an hour, but with whom he talked could not be learned. When he left the room Mr. Mitchell refused to answer any questions. Accompanied by his mysterious companion, he drove direct to his hotel. Mr. Mitchell said he probably would go to Wilkesbarre tonight.

The room at which Mr. Mitchell called, it was learned, was engaged only a couple of days ago, and the furniture was put in yesterday. A number of clerks from E. H. Harriman's office were constantly coming and going after the conference began, and one of Mr. Harriman's clerks was on guard at the door. At Mr. Harriman's office it was said he was in town but he could not be seen.

The report that Governor Odell was active in an effort to settle the strike and that he had participated in last night's conference was denied by the governor himself today.

While Mr. Mitchell was at the Equitable building another conference was in progress at Senator Platt's office, a few blocks away, between the New York senator and Senators Quay and Penrose.

One of the district presidents, Mr. Nichols, was asked if there was any possibility of an immediate end to the strike. He replied:

"Unless the demands of the strikers are granted in full, I do not see how Mitchell can settle the strike without calling a convention. If only a part of the demands are granted that would render it necessary to call a convention and that would take two weeks at least."

Mayor Low today received the following telegram from Mayor Maybury of Detroit:

"Strike practically settled. Can you confirm or correct any misapprehension which may arise from this report?"

Mayor Low replied:

"I have no information on this report."

Senator Penrose after the conference in Senator Platt's office said there had been nothing accomplished at the conference that would lead to a settlement of the strike. He and Senator Quay, he said, were contemplating returning to Philadelphia today.

This afternoon Mr. Mitchell was in conference with his associates at his hotel, Edward Leuchowich, who was also a party to the conference between Senators Platt, Quay and Penrose, called on J. P. Morgan during the day. He

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